<u>SHB 2708</u> - S COMM AMD By Committee on Higher Education

ADOPTED 03/03/2004

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 2 following:
- 3 "Sec. 1. RCW 28B.102.010 and 1987 c 437 s 1 are each amended to 4 read as follows:
 - The legislature finds that encouraging outstanding students to enter the teaching profession is of paramount importance to the state of Washington. By creating the future teachers conditional scholarship and loan repayment program, the legislature intends to assist in the effort to recruit as future teachers ((students)) individuals who have distinguished themselves through outstanding academic achievement or demonstrated their commitment to teaching through work as a paraprofessional in the public school system, and ((students)) who can act as role models for children ((including those from targeted ethnic minorities)). The legislature urges business, industry, and philanthropic community organizations to join with state government in making this program successful.
- **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.102.020 and 1996 c 53 s 1 are each amended to read 18 as follows:
- 19 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 20 this section apply throughout this chapter.
 - (1) "Conditional scholarship" means a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part if the recipient renders service as a teacher in an approved education program in this state.
 - (2) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a college or university in the state of Washington ((which)) that is accredited by an accrediting association recognized as such by rule of the higher education coordinating board.
 - (3) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

- (4) "Eligible student" means a student who is registered for at least ((ten)) six credit hours or the equivalent, demonstrates high academic achievement ((of at least a 3.30 grade point average for students entering an institution of higher education directly from high school or maintains at least a 3.00 grade point average or the equivalent for each academic year in an institution of higher education)), is a resident student as defined by RCW 28B.15.012 and 28B.15.013, and has a declared intention to complete an approved preparation program leading to initial teacher certification or required for earning an additional endorsement, ((or a college or university graduate who meets the same credit hour requirements and is seeking an additional teaching endorsement or initial teacher certification. Resident students defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2)(e) are not eligible students under this chapter)) and commits to teaching service in the state of Washington.
- (5) "Public school" means an elementary school, a middle school, junior high school, or high school within the public school system referred to in Article IX of the state Constitution.
- (6) "Forgiven" or "to forgive" or "forgiveness" means to render service as a teacher in an approved education program in the state of Washington in lieu of monetary repayment.
 - (7) "Satisfied" means paid-in-full.

- (8) "Participant" means an eligible student who has received a conditional scholarship or loan repayment under this chapter.
- (9) (("Targeted ethnic minority" means a group of Americans with a common ethnic or racial heritage selected by the board for program consideration due to societal concerns such as high dropout rates or low rates of college participation by members of the group.)) "Loan repayment" means a federal student loan that is repaid in whole or in part if the recipient renders service as a teacher in an approved education program in Washington state.
- (10) "Approved education program" means an education program in the state of Washington for knowledge and skills generally learned in preschool through twelfth grade. Approved education programs may include but are not limited to:
 - (a) K-12 schools under Title 28A RCW; or

- 1 (b) ((Early childhood education and assistance programs under RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 or the federal head start program;
 - (c) An approved school under chapter 28A.195 RCW;
 - (d) Education centers under chapter 28A.205 RCW;
- (e) English as a second language programs and programs leading to high school graduation or the equivalency operated by community or technical colleges; and
- 8 (f) Tribal schools in Washington approved by the federal bureau of 9 Indian affairs.)) Other K-12 educational sites in the state of 10 Washington as designated by the board.
- 11 (11) "Equalization fee" means the additional amount added to the 12 principal of a loan under this chapter to equate the debt to that which 13 the student would have incurred if the loan had been received through 14 the federal subsidized Stafford student loan program.
- 15 <u>(12) "Teacher shortage area" means a shortage of elementary or</u> 16 <u>secondary school teachers in a specific subject area, discipline,</u> 17 <u>classification, or geographic area as defined by the office of the</u> 18 <u>superintendent of public instruction.</u>
- 19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.102.030 and 1987 c 437 s 3 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

The future teachers conditional scholarship <u>and loan repayment</u> program is established. The program shall be administered by the higher education coordinating board. In administering the program, the board shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) Select students to receive conditional scholarships((, with the assistance of a screening committee composed of teachers and leaders in government, business, and education)) or loan repayments;
 - (2) Adopt necessary rules and guidelines;
- (3) Publicize the program;

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- 30 (4) Collect and manage repayments from students who do not meet 31 their teaching obligations under this chapter; and
- 32 (5) Solicit and accept grants and donations from public and private 33 sources for the program.
- 34 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.102.040 and 1987 c 437 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The ((higher education coordinating)) board may select participants based on an application process conducted by the board or the board may utilize selection processes for similar students in cooperation with the professional educator standards board or the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

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- (2) If the board selects participants for the program, it shall 6 establish a ((planning)) selection committee ((to develop criteria)) 7 for ((the)) screening and ((selection of)) selecting recipients of the 8 conditional scholarships. ((These)) The criteria shall emphasize 9 factors demonstrating excellence including but not limited to superior 10 scholastic achievement, leadership ability, community contributions, 11 12 bilingual ability, willingness to commit to providing teaching service 13 in shortage areas, and an ability to act as a role model for ((targeted ethnic minority)) students. ((These criteria also may include, for 14 approximately half of the recipients, requirements that those 15 recipients meet the definition of "needy student" under RCW 16 Priority will be given to individuals seeking 17 certification or an additional endorsement in math, science, 18 technology, or special education. 19
- 20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.102.045 and 1988 c 125 s 7 are each amended to 21 read as follows:
- ((The board may waive grade point requirements for an otherwise eligible individual student under special circumstances.)) To receive additional disbursements under the program under this chapter, a participant must be considered by his or her institution of higher education to be in a satisfactory progress condition.
- 27 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28B.102.050 and 1987 c 437 s 5 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

The board may award conditional scholarships or provide loan repayments to eligible ((students)) participants from the funds appropriated to the board for this purpose, or from any private donations, or any other funds given to the board for this program. The amount of the conditional scholarship or loan repayment awarded an individual shall not exceed ((three thousand dollars)) the amount of tuition and fees at the institution of higher education attended by the

- 1 participant or resident undergraduate tuition and fees at the
- 2 <u>University of Washington</u> per academic year <u>for a full-time student</u>,
- 3 whichever is lower. ((Students)) Participants are eligible to receive
- 4 conditional scholarships or loan repayments for a maximum of five
- 5 years.

- **Sec. 7.** RCW 28B.102.060 and 1996 c 53 s 2 are each amended to read 7 as follows:
 - (1) Participants in the conditional scholarship program incur an obligation to repay the conditional scholarship, with interest <u>and an equalization fee</u>, unless they teach for two years in an approved education program for each year of scholarship received, under rules adopted by the board. <u>Participants who teach in a designated teacher shortage area shall have one year of loan canceled for each year they teach in the shortage area.</u>
 - (2) The interest rate shall be ((eight percent for the first four years of repayment and ten percent beginning with the fifth year of repayment)) determined annually by the board. Participants who fail to complete the teaching service shall incur an equalization fee based on the remaining unforgiven balance of the loan. The equalization fee shall be added to the remaining balance and repaid by the participant.
 - (3) The minimum payment shall be set by the board. The maximum period for repayment shall be ten years, with payments of principal and interest accruing quarterly commencing ((nine)) six months from the date the participant completes or discontinues the course of study. Provisions for deferral of payment shall be determined by the board.
 - (4) The entire principal and interest of each payment shall be forgiven for each payment period in which the participant teaches in an approved education program until the entire repayment obligation is satisfied. Should the participant cease to teach in an approved education program in this state before the participant's repayment obligation is completed, payments on the unsatisfied portion of the principal and interest shall begin the next payment period and continue until the remainder of the participant's repayment obligation is satisfied.
- 35 (5) The board is responsible for collection of repayments made 36 under this section and shall exercise due diligence in such collection,

maintaining all necessary records to insure that maximum repayments are made. Collection and servicing of repayments under this section shall be pursued using the full extent of the law, including wage garnishment if necessary. The board is responsible to forgive all or parts of such repayments under the criteria established in this section and shall maintain all necessary records of forgiven payments.

- (6) Receipts from the payment of principal or interest or any other subsidies to which the board as administrator is entitled, which are paid by or on behalf of participants under this section, shall be deposited ((with the higher education coordinating board)) in the future teachers conditional scholarship account and shall be used to cover the costs of granting the conditional scholarships, maintaining necessary records, and making collections under subsection (5) of this section. The board shall maintain accurate records of these costs, and all receipts beyond those necessary to pay such costs shall be used to grant conditional scholarships to eligible students.
- (7) The board shall ((temporarily or, in special circumstances, permanently defer the requirements of this section for eligible students as defined in RCW 28B.10.017.
- (8) The board may cancel a recipient's repayment obligation due to the recipient's total and permanent disability or death, subject to documentation as required by the board.
- (9) This section applies to recipients of conditional scholarships
 awarded before or after July 1, 1996)) adopt rules to define the terms
 of repayment, including applicable interest rates, fees, and
 deferments.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 28B.102 28 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) Upon documentation of federal student loan indebtedness, the board may enter into agreements with participants to repay all or part of a federal student loan in exchange for teaching service in an approved educational program. The ratio of loan repayment to years of teaching service for the loan repayment program shall be the same as established for the conditional scholarship program.
- 35 (2) The agreement shall specify the period of time it is in effect 36 and detail the obligations of the board and the participant, including

the amount to be paid to the participant. The agreement may also specify the geographic location and subject matter area of teaching service for which loan repayment will be provided.

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- (3) At the end of each school year, a participant under this section shall provide evidence to the board that the requisite teaching service has been provided. Upon receipt of the evidence, the board shall pay the participant the agreed-upon amount for one year of full-time teaching service or a prorated amount for less than full-time teaching service. To qualify for additional loan repayments, the participant must be engaged in continuous teaching service as defined by the board.
- 12 (4) The board may, at its discretion, arrange to make the loan 13 repayment directly to the holder of the participant's federal student 14 loan.
- 15 (5) The board's obligations to a participant under this section 16 shall cease when:
 - (a) The terms of the agreement have been fulfilled;
- 18 (b) The participant fails to maintain continuous teaching service 19 as determined by the board; or
- 20 (c) All of the participant's federal student loans have been 21 repaid.
- 22 (6) The board shall adopt rules governing loan repayments, 23 including approved leaves of absence from continuous teaching service 24 and other deferments as may be necessary.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 28B.102 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) The future teachers conditional scholarship account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. An appropriation is not required for expenditures of funds from the account. The account is not subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW except for moneys used for program administration.
- 32 (2) The board shall deposit in the account all moneys received for 33 the program. The account shall be self-sustaining and consist of funds 34 appropriated by the legislature for the future teachers conditional 35 scholarship and loan repayment program, private contributions to the 36 program, and receipts from participant repayments. Beginning July 1,

2004, the board shall also deposit into the account: (a) All funds from the institution of higher education loan account that are traceable to any conditional scholarship program for teachers or prospective teachers established by the legislature before the effective date of this act; and (b) all amounts repaid by individuals under any such program.

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- (3) Expenditures from the account may be used solely for conditional loans and loan repayments to participants in the program established by this chapter and costs associated with program administration by the board.
- 11 (4) Disbursements from the account may be made only on the 12 authorization of the board.
- - (1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited, invested, and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with RCW 43.84.080 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the money were in the state treasury.
- 20 (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's trust 21 fund shall be set aside in an account in the treasury trust fund to be 22 known as the investment income account.
 - (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the payment of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's trust funds including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and disbursement functions for the state treasurer or affected state agencies. The investment income account is subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to financial institutions. Payments shall occur prior to distribution of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.
 - (4)(a) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the earnings credited to the investment income account to the state general fund except under (b) and (c) of this subsection.
- 34 (b) The following accounts and funds shall receive their 35 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's 36 average daily balance for the period: The Washington promise

scholarship account, the college savings program account, the 1 2 Washington advanced college tuition payment program account, the agricultural local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment 3 fund, the students with dependents grant account, the basic health plan 4 self-insurance reserve account, the contract harvesting revolving 5 account, the Washington state combined fund drive account, the 6 7 Washington international exchange scholarship endowment fund, the developmental disabilities endowment trust fund, the energy account, 8 9 the fair fund, the fruit and vegetable inspection account, the future 10 teachers conditional scholarship account, the game farm alternative account, the grain inspection revolving fund, the 11 12 accountability incentive account, the law enforcement officers' and 13 fire fighters' plan 2 expense fund, the local tourism promotion account, the produce railcar pool account, the rural rehabilitation 14 account, the stadium and exhibition center account, the youth athletic 15 16 facility account, the self-insurance revolving fund, the sulfur dioxide 17 abatement account, and the children's trust fund((, and the investing in innovation account)). However, the earnings to be distributed shall 18 first be reduced by the allocation to the state treasurer's service 19 fund pursuant to RCW 43.08.190. 20

(c) The following accounts and funds shall receive eighty percent of their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance for the period: The advanced right of way revolving fund, the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account, the city and county advance right-of-way revolving fund, the federal narcotics asset forfeitures account, the high occupancy vehicle account, the local rail service assistance account, and the miscellaneous transportation programs account.

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- 29 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state 30 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings 31 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:
- 34 (1) RCW 28B.102.070 (Transfer of administration of program) and 35 1987 c 437 s 7; and

1 (2) RCW 28B.102.905 (Severability--1987 c 437) and 1987 c 437 s 2 10."

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On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "teachers;" strike the remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28B.102.010, 28B.102.020, 28B.102.030, 28B.102.040, 28B.102.045, 28B.102.050, and 28B.102.060; reenacting and amending RCW 43.79A.040; adding new sections to chapter 28B.102 RCW; and repealing RCW 28B.102.070 and 28B.102.905."

EFFECT: Returns language to its current status.

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